The IT and Cybersecurity grantees participated in their May industry group discussion. This discussion covered challenges and strategies to continue program implementation and operations during a pandemic. Grantees shared:

- **Implementation challenges** during a national pandemic, including:
  - Decrease in demand for apprentices due to business closures;
  - Adapting curricula designed for in-person, hands-on team learning; and,
  - Delayed program start-up due to the pandemic.

- **Program strategies** designed to assist participants in completing training requirements. Examples included offering on-the-job training (OJT) from remote locations and using virtual platforms to collect assignments and to maintain connections with mentors and supervisors.

- Administrative challenges and **strategies for streamlining communications** and grant operations.

- Ideas for ensuring apprentices **have access to the internet**. They included drive-up access at community college site and the provision of hotspots.

- Strategies for **engaging new and current partners**, including conducting employer events and meetings virtually.